

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 DODE-00 IGA-02 L-03 H-03 DRC-01

/115 W

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R 021052Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9334

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

TORREJON AB SPAIN

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PASS TO DEA

TORREJON FOR COL. FLOYD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, SP

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: SPANISH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN
TRAINING NARCOTIC DETECTOR DOGS

1. NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF GUARDIA CIVIL, ARMY LT. GEN. VEGA, ASKED DEA SAIC JUNE 27 FOR US ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING INFO AND HELP IN SETTING UP NARCOTICS DETECTOR DOG UNIT. VEGA SAID GOS WAS INTENT ON IMPROVING CAPABILITY OF COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND HAD HEARD THAT USE OF DOGS HAD PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN DETECTING HARD NARCOTICS. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR MAJOR GENERAL BUJANDA (RANKING GUARDIA CIVIL OFFICER) REITERATED REQUEST FOR SUCH INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE.

2. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY RECORDS, TRAINING ASSISTANCE FOR NARCOTICS DETECTOR DOGS WAS SUBJECT OF MEMO PREPARED
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IN DEA'S INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION. FUNDS FOR SUCH

TRAINING WERE REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE FROM OCINC/AID WITH INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL BEING RESPONSIBILITY OF REQUESTING COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH US CUSTOMS DETECTOR DOG UNIT WAS SAID TO BE RESTRICTED TO FULFILLING DOMESTIC REQUIREMENTS, TRAINING OF DOGS AND HANDLERS WAS AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES AT SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. OWING TO SCARCITY OF INFO AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, IT IS REQUESTED THAT DEPARTMENT PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH INFO AND SUGGESTIONS IN HANDLING THIS HIGH-LEVEL SPANISH REQUEST.

3. EMBASSY IS AWARE THAT 16TH AIR FORCE AT TORREJON HAS SMALL NARCOTICS DETECTOR DOG UNIT (5DOGS) AND THEY HAVE PROVEN MOST EFFECTIVE IN IDENTIFYING BOTH HARD DRUGS AND MARIJUANA ON INSPECTIONS OF AIRCRAFT AND MAIL. UNIT HAS LIMITED CAPABILITY TO MAINTAIN PROFICIENCY OF DOGS WHO UNDERWENT 17-WEEK TRAINING COURSE IN TRAINING UNIT, NOW DISBANDED, IN GERMANY. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS UNIT WOULD BE AMENABLE TO HOLDING DEMONSTRATION FOR SPANISH OFFICIALS.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS LATEST SIGN OF INCREASINGLY CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN GOS AND EMBASSY'S DEA OFFICERS IN NARCOTICS CONTROL MATTERS. GENERAL BUJANDA RECEIVED LETTER OF COMMENDATION IN JANUARY FROM DEA DIRECTOR FOR EARLIER CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH DEA OFFICIALS IN BARCELONA. INTEREST OF NEW GUARDIA CIVIL DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED INASMUCH AS HE IS KEY FIGURE IN MOST IMPORTANT SPANISH AGENCY DEALING WITH POLICE MATTERS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, AS HEAD OF ORGANIZATION WITH MOST EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS DIVISION. EMBASSY AND DEA OFFICERS MADE NO COMMITMENT OTHER THAN TO PROMISE TO PROVIDE AS MUCH INFO AS POSSIBLE ABOUT FEASIBILITY AND AVAILABILITY OF DOG AND HANDLERS TRAINING PROGRAM. INITIATIVE FOR GENERAL VEGA CAME ONLY FEW DAYS FOLLOWING GOS CABINET DECISION JUNE 21 TO SET UP INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS PROBLEMS. PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE AND INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC ARE RECEIVING INCREASED HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE US SHOULD ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THESE SPANISH EFFORTS. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP INITIAL LEAD WITH 16TH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIR FORCE NARCOTICS DOG UNIT TO SEE WHAT INFO AND SUPPORT IT MIGHT BE IN POSITION TO PROVIDE IN RESPONSE OM SPANISH REQUEST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PERSONNEL TRAINING, DRUG CONTROL, DOGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, POLICE FORCES
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Draft Date: 02 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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